

103. (Amended) A computer program according to claim 100, wherein said second code comprises:

c1 a code for causing said computer to issue a remote request to said another computer to access the shared disk connected to said another computer if access is requested to the shared disk connected to said another computer.

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

The present Amendment amends claims 2-17 to be renumbered as claims 88-103 as per the Office Action and further amends the renumbered claims 88-103 so as to more clearly describe features of the present invention. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 88-103.

Applicants acknowledged the renumbering of claims 2-17 to 88-103 as per the Office Action. This renumbering is reflected in the present Amendment.

Claims 88-103 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-87 of prior patent No. 5,935,205. Applicants do not agree with this rejection. However, in order to expedite prosecution of the present application filed on even date herewith is Terminal Disclaimer obviating this rejection. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the filing of the Terminal Disclaimer should not be considered nor was it intended as an admission that the features recited in claims 88-103 are obvious relative to the features recited in claims 1-87 of the prior patent. The filing of the Terminal Disclaimer is merely to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Claims 88, 89, 91-94, 96 and 98-103 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Akizawa (U.S. Patent No. 5,548,724) and claims 95 and 97 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Akizawa in view of alleged well known feature of password. These rejections are traversed for the following reasons. Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as now recited in claims 88-103 are not taught or suggested by Akizawa or the alleged well known feature of password whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw these rejections.

As noted above, amendments were made to the claims in order to more clearly describe features of the present invention. Particularly, amendments were made to the claims to more clearly describe, for example, as set forth in claim 88 that each computer includes a processor for issuing a request to the plurality of shared memory devices for requesting access to one of the shared memory devices and a memory request processing section for processing the request issued to the plurality of shared memory devices.

Particularly, according to the present invention the memory requesting processing section processes the request to the shared memory device connected to the computer if the request requests access to the shared memory device connected to the computer and sends the request to another computer so as to access the shared memory device connected to the

another computer if the request requests access to the shared memory device connected to the another computer.

The above described features now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record, particularly Akizawa or the alleged well known feature of password, whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

Akizawa teaches a file server system and a file access control method which allows for the sharing of files distributively among a plurality of client computers according to load information measured by a load information monitoring device. Particularly, Akizawa attempts to prevent bottlenecks to the access of files in the file servers by managing the scheduling of request for files in the file server. Akizawa teaches the use of a file control program and a file access control program each of which plays a role in processing file requests from the client computers in an efficient manner so as to reduce bottlenecks.

However, Akizawa does not teach or suggest the basic structure of the present invention as recited in the claims and as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the present application. As illustrated in Fig. 1 of the present application the present invention is directed to a computer system in which a plurality of computers 100-1 through 100-n are coupled to each other by a network 140, wherein each computer 100-n is connected to a shared memory device 106-n and access to the shared memory devices 106-1 through 106-n is controlled by a memory request processing section 110 provided in each computer 100-n.

The memory request processing section 110 of the present invention receives a request for access of a shared memory device from a processor 101 included in a computer 100-1 or from a processor 101 of another computer 100-2. Thus, the memory request processing

section 110 determines whether the request for access is intended to obtain access to the disk 106-1 connected to the computer 100-1 or is intended to obtain access to another shared disk 106-2 connected to another computer 100-2.

The above described basic structure and functions and operations of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims are clearly not taught or suggested by Akizawa. As noted above, Akizawa merely teaches in Fig. 1 thereof a computer system wherein a plurality of client computers 10, 20, 30 are each connected to the same file server system 90 via a network 50. As per Akizawa, each client computer 10, 20, 30 is not connected individually to one of the file servers 110, 120, 130 nor does each client computer 10, 20, 20 control access to an individual file server 110, 120, 130 to which it is connected as in the present invention.

Therefore, Akizawa fails to teach or suggest a computer system having a plurality of computers connected to each other and a plurality of shared memory devices each of which being coupled to one of the computers as recited in the claims.

Further, Akizawa fails to teach or suggest a processor for issuing a request to the plurality of shared memory devices for requesting access to one of the shared memory devices as recited in the claims.

Still further, Akizawa fails to teach or suggest a memory request processing section for processing the request issued to the plurality of shared memory devices wherein the memory request processing section processes the request to the shared memory device connected to the computer if the request requests access to the shared memory device connected to the computer and sends the request to another computer to access the shared

memory device connected to the other computer if the request requests access to the shared memory device connected to the other computer as recited in the claims.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Akizawa whether taken individually or in combination with any of the other references of record.

The above noted deficiencies of Akizawa are not supplied by the Examiner's alleged well known feature of passwords. As shown above, Akizawa fails to teach or suggest numerous features regarding the specific structure and operation of the present invention as now recited in the claims. The Examiner's reference to the alleged well known feature of password does not supply any of these deficiencies of Akizawa. Therefore, combining Akizawa with the alleged well known feature of password as suggested by the Examiner fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now recited in the claims.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's taken of Official Notice of the alleged well known feature of password. However, the Examiner has not shown how this alleged teaching corresponds to or render obvious the features of the present invention as recited in the claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully challenge the Examiner's Official Notice and request that the Examiner supply a reference which discloses such alleged well known features.

In any event, combining the teachings of Akizawa and such alleged well known features of password does not teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now recited in the claims.

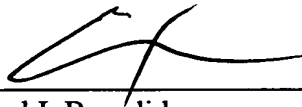
The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the references utilized in the rejection of claims 88-103.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 88-103 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 88-103 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.34424CX1).

Respectfully submitted,

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